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MASHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1953.

Mr. Chairman,

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the following report on the public health services of the Rural District Council for the year 1953.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Public Health Officers.

Medical Officer of Health: G.R.Dodds, M.B., B.S.  
(Resigned 30th September 1953).  
W.Sharpe, M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.  
(appointed 1st October 1953).

Sanitary Inspector. J.Lambert, M.S.I.A.

County Council Nursing Staff operating in District:

Miss C. H. Stapley

Miss E. Tiffin.

Ambulance Service.

The district is served by the County Ambulance Station at Thirsk.

Laboratory Service.

Public Health Laboratory, Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres) ... ..	24,835
Population (Estimated mid-year 1953) ... ..	1,645
Inhabited houses ... ..	663
Rateable Value ... ..	£22,084
Product of Penny Rate ... ..	£90. 9. 11



# VITAL STATISTICS.

	Males	Females	Total	Rate/1000 Home Pop. Local England & Wales	
<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u>					
Legitimate	10	12	22	14.0	15.5
Illegitimate	1	0	1		
<u>STILLBIRTHS:</u>					
Legitimate	0	0	0	0	22.4 *
Illegitimate	0	0	0		
<u>DEATHS:</u>					
All Causes.	12	7	19	11.6	11.4
Maternal Causes	-	0	0	0	0.76 *
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years	0	0	0	0	1.1 +

\* Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.  
+ Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age:-

	<u>Local.</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales.</u>
All infants per 1,000 live births.	0	26.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births.	0	-
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	0	-
Deaths from measles (all ages)	0	
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	0	

## POPULATION.


	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947
Mid year population	1645	1657	1658	1696	1721	1704	1692
Birth Rate	14.0	12.1	12.7	14.2	12.2	11.7	18.3
Death Rate	11.6	7.8	18.1	17.1	13.9	10.6	17.7

## CLASSIFIED CAUSE OF DEATH.

	Males	Females	Total	Rate/1000 Home Pop. Local England & Wales.	
ALL CAUSES.	12	7	19	11.6	11.4
Cancer.	2	0	2	1.22	-
Cardio Vascular.	8	5	13	7.90	-
Influenza.	0	1	1	0.61	0.16
Pneumonia.	1	0	1	0.61	0.55
Other defined and illdefined disease.	0	1	1	0.61	-
Accidents.	1	0	1	0.61	-

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were 71 cases of whooping cough notified in the district during the year. No other infectious diseases were reported.



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Diphtheria Immunisation. The following figures relate to the immunisation state of the child population:-

<u>Age Group.</u>	<u>Immunised.</u>
0-4	56%
5-14	85%

Vaccination. Of the children born during the year 1953, 41% have been notified as having been vaccinated against smallpox.

Tuberculosis.

	<u>New Cases.</u>		<u>Deaths.</u>	
	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>
0-4	0	0	0	0
5-14	0	0	0	0
15+	2	0	0	0
	2	0	0	0

There were 4 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and no cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis on the register at 31st December 1953. This gives a rate of 2.4 cases of tuberculosis per 1,000 population.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

It was not necessary to take action under Sec.47 of the above Act which deals with the compulsory removal to suitable premises of persons who are not receiving from other persons, and are not able to devote to themselves, adequate care and attention.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Water Supplies.

The water supplies in the district are generally adequate and reliable but are all untreated and mostly subject to a moderate degree of surface contamination. Work has been started on the provision of a new supply for the village of Ilton which will replace the unsatisfactory existing individual springs and shallow wells at present serving this village.

Sewage Disposal.

The existing sewage disposal system for the township of Masham is inadequate and unsatisfactory. A considerable number of houses drain to a sewer which discharges crude sewage directly on to the river bank to the east of Masham bridge. The majority of the properties, however, are drained to the sewage disposal works. These works are seriously overloaded and produce a very poor effluent, which fails to comply with the standards of the Ouse River Board.

It is essential, in view of the potential risk to health at present existing, that the sewage disposal methods should be modernised as soon as is practicable.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Except in the more outlying areas, refuse collection is carried out by the Council by indirect labour. This system of collection is satisfactory. The tip at Masham is not properly controlled and at times is unsightly and a potential nuisance. More supervision is required for the control of this tipping ground.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. SHARPE.

Medical Officer of Health.

